

NO INTEREST SHOULD INTERFERE WITH RETURN TO NORMAL CONDITIONS

THE dollar is coming back into its own. We are passing through a period of rising dollar values. The rise is not very rapid yet, but it is beginning.

The purchasing power of the dollar is about 60 cents now. With the decline in commodity prices which is slowly beginning and is bound to become more marked during the spring and summer, the dollar will increase in purchasing power and consequently in value.

It is to the interest of all the people that the dollar's purchasing power be brought as soon as possible from a 60-cent basis to the normal 100 cents or nearly that. The speed with which this is done will be the measure of progress toward readjustment.

Therefore, all efforts to keep the dollar at its present low purchasing power mean just as many obstacles placed in the path of a return to normal conditions.

This matter is all important. It affects every life in America. It affects every industry and every profession. It affects nearly every American activity.

War is over. The making of war materials has about ceased. Peace has come. Why is not every resource being turned to speed up the wheels of peacetime activities? Why are men of enterprise reluctant at this time to enter into new undertakings involving large outlays for construction, labor and raw materials? It is simply because they fear their expenditures at this time will buy only about 60 percent of what their competitors will be able to buy a little later when the dollar has a purchasing power of 100 cents.

Or reverse it. They are afraid their buildings, machinery, materials and labor, if secured now, will cost them 40 percent more now than later.

This is the reason for the hesitancy in the purchases of raw materials and manufactured goods. It is the reason for the deadlock in steel products. They are waiting for steel to go down. Merchants are buying stocks in small quantities, pursuing, as one El Paso merchant said, a "hand to mouth" policy. They are all afraid of getting caught short on a bear market, of buying high and having to sell low.

There are interests and agencies which are combatting, quite sincerely and very vigorously, the return to normal prices. But why should there be any interference with the natural return to normal? Stable and settled price conditions will be in the interest of all the people.

There is a lot of talk that wages should not come down, even after the cost of living drops. Labor leaders in the east have given out declarations to that effect, saying that wage standards will be maintained after the prices of necessities cheapen. Certainly there should be no wage cut until the cost of living falls and wage reduction should then be commensurate only to the drop in prices. When the time comes that \$5 will buy as much food as \$5 buys now, employers who feel that the need of cutting the labor cost is essential will have no argument in that fact.

But since labor is an important cost element in nearly everything that the workman buys, it is plain that the cost of living for him cannot be much reduced without cutting the wages of the workman who made the goods he uses, unless there is a marked reduction in the cost of raw materials, machinery, fuel, etc.

It is too much to hope that this period of readjustment can be gone through without losses to particular classes as well as to particular individuals. One group constituting an industry will lose, the copper companies, for instance. And some certain groups of labor will lose, just as certain merchants will also sustain losses. This is inevitable as an incident in the process of lowering commodity prices.

Peace is made to the effect that grain prices should be held up to war level and that farmers should receive the war price of 17½ cents a bushel for their grain. It is urged that the farmer, through the stimulus of high prices, be induced to relieve the shortage of food in the world. It is stated that the operation of the law of supply and demand would imply bad faith in failing to maintain an artificial level.

It is apparently overlooked that one reason for the present huge surplus of food products was the willingness with which the people of the United States responded to appeals to save food and observe meatless and wheatless days. The farmer had the incentive of high prices to fire his patriotism. The people at large paid high prices and made their sacrifices with no such reward in prospect. Are

they to be asked now to continue their sacrifice in the hope of averting a loss that may fall upon a particular class?

Particular groups must make up their minds to stand particular losses. These losses will be offset by the benefits that will come to all with a return to normal prices. The farmer may get less for his crops but he will buy clothing, farm implements and seed more cheaply. The laborer will get less wages but his food and clothing will be cheaper. His day's hire will buy as much as before. Profits of employers will be smaller, but they, too, will benefit from the increased purchasing power of the dollar.

Unemployment will grow less troublesome for enterprise will pick up renewed courage. Postponed development work will be taken up in earnest. We shall be in a position to utilize the opportunities afforded by our advantage over the rest of the world in the abundance of raw materials, for with commodity prices reduced and labor costs reasonable, we can compete in the markets of the world for our share of overseas commerce.

The change will be gradual. It will not be accomplished in a day or a month, or by all classes of business and people simultaneously. But let no one stand in the way of this readjustment, neither capital, labor nor the government.

Why Close The Mines?

STATE representative Waters has introduced in the lower house of the Arizona legislature an "Americanization bill" providing that all workmen in hazardous employment must speak and understand English.

The bill looks to be in line with Col. Roosevelt's insistence upon the Americanization of aliens taking up residence in the United States with the intention of making this country their home.

But vigilant eyes have discovered that the Waters bill is merely a resurrection of the old Kinney bill and that its effect would be to bar from the mines all Mexican, Indian and Slav labor. It mentions specifically labor in mines, quarries, tunnels, subways, around electric machinery or on electric construction or on railways. The state mine inspector or his deputies or other labor inspectors would be the judges whether the occupation was hazardous, with the assistance of the state and county attorney.

Those who will most champion this bill will doubtless be those labor leaders and their followers who are interested in closing such employment to all but Americans, regardless of the effect it might have on the mines.

This life must be safeguarded is evident enough and it must not be endangered through inability to understand instructions or warnings. But it happens that in the mines most affected, practically all the workers understand the language the shift boss speaks, whether it be English, Spanish or Slavonian. In the mines at Clifton, Morenci and Ray Spanish is spoken almost exclusively, while at Globe and Miami nearly all the workers understand English, though the Slav dialects are spoken to some extent.

All these foreigners ought to learn to read, write and speak English and become American citizens if they are to continue to reside in the United States, but to force them out of employment and perhaps close the mines because they can't speak English would not only be bad policy but would also give rise to foreign complications.

From "Berlin or Bust," the slogan of the A.E.F. seems to have been changed to "Home, Hominay and Happiness."

William Hohenzollern can grow whiskers, if he wants to, but if he ayes them red, Jim Ham Lewis will have cause for action.

If the pay of Arizona legislators is made \$1000 a year instead of \$7 a day, the taxpayers may be sure no session will be unduly prolonged nor will there be any special sessions if the members have anything to say about it.

Self determination of nations is ideal theory, but when native students of the Porto Rico normal advocate independence from the United States, they don't get schools when they graduate.

After everybody has been showering cigars on the American soldiers, the anti-cigar campaigners in this country have a hard job cut out for them.

No wonder the peace negotiations drag along. How can the delegates do anything but address the international congress of correspondents, there being 3000 of them covering the conference?

Little Interviews

"Jitne Chasers" In Cafe Rouse the Contempt of Visitor Boy Scout Enthusiasm Will Not Be Allowed To Decrease

HAVE you seen the "jitne chasers," asked William J. Albera, of New York. "It is impossible for any one to ride them. I ventured into one of El Paso's largest and most exclusive cafes the other evening in search of recreation. It appeared to be a modern concern. The jazz music was carefully worth while. The thing was lacking in the way of service, so we made ourselves comfortable and were just about to enjoy ourselves when the jitne chasers appeared upon the scene and ruined our whole evening of pleasure."

"You certainly haven't missed them—it would be an impossibility for one to fail to see the exhibition of greed and avarice that the music and the jitne chasers have to offer. The sight is enough to disgust any ordinary person in full possession of his sanity and drive him from the place."

"Would it not look much more like a display of greed and avarice until the evening was over and then in privacy display the proceeds among them without such a vulgar display of avarice? Like a crowd of people, they impatiently wait and wait for the dance to end and then pounce with a snarl and a snarl upon the bone of contention and barge and wheedle in a disgusting manner. It certainly shows a lack of breeding, of education, of the most elementary of civility and of the most elementary of decency."

"Now that the war is over and the present urgent need for Boy Scout activities have let up to a great extent, efforts are being made to put the organization again on a stable financial basis," said J. J. Wood, of Cleveland, Texas. "In the larger towns and cities the proposition will not demand a

program differing greatly from that of the time of war, for there are so many boys in these organizations that the interest can be kept up pretty well. In the small towns and villages, it will take a lot of tact and ingenuity to find things to take the place of war savings drives, food production and the many other activities that kept the boys alert to his duty."

"With traveling and living expenses paid, and a guarantee of a month's work at \$1 a day, the 300 laborers which have been called for work in the eradication of the pink boll worm, in Ward county, should turn a nice profit to El Paso," said W. J. Wood. "For in most instances, the men will have families left in this city, to whom they will send or bring their earnings. I consider it a very good thing for El Paso to be asked to furnish them."

"I feel somewhat natural here in the Sheldon hotel lobby. It is like old times," said Mr. Britton Davis, of New York. "I have been here for a long time and I have seen a great difference in the wonderful changes in El Paso, to the point where I lived here. I attended a chamber of commerce dinner the other night. I suppose there were about 100 people in attendance and Oils Cole and I counted eight, I think, who were here when I lived here 15 years ago. I can not count the number of new people who have come to El Paso since I have been here."

"The federal vocational bureau for caring for and training disabled soldiers and seamen provides for caring for them in hospitals, until they are cured, and then gives them vocational training afterward, so as to make them self supporting citizens," said Mr. Wood. "I have seen a great difference in the wonderful changes in El Paso, to the point where I lived here. I attended a chamber of commerce dinner the other night. I suppose there were about 100 people in attendance and Oils Cole and I counted eight, I think, who were here when I lived here 15 years ago. I can not count the number of new people who have come to El Paso since I have been here."

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Trying To Make Both Ends Meet - By Hal Coffman



Roundabout Town

El Paso Appreciates Music and Pays For Its Likes Paid Most Per Capita To French Orchestra In the U.S.

By G. A. MARTIN.

EL PASO did better per capita in its financial support of the French orchestra, when it visited here last Thanksgiving, than any other city in the country, with the exception of Charlotte, N. C. It is considered that this city did even better than Charlotte, because Charlotte has a more densely populated section surrounding it.

Of course, other cities supplied more money for the band than El Paso, but they were much larger. In proportion to its population, El Paso did better than any other city in the country, with the possible exception of Charlotte.

This is the statement of Harry M. Bell, who was here ahead of the orchestra and is again in the city ahead of the French army band, which is coming next week. The total receipts here for the orchestra were about \$4200; Charlotte gave about the same.

Some of the large cities of the country which not only did not do as well as El Paso per capita, but also failed to spend as much money as El Paso to hear the noted French orchestra were Detroit, Indianapolis, Louisville, St. Paul, St. Louis, Cleveland, Ohio. El Paso's seat was larger than either of these, equal in cash the seat sold in Rochester, N. Y., and Pittsburgh, Pa.

"This ought to make El Pasoans feel pretty good," said Mr. Bell. "It is a fine thing to see the city of El Paso in the class of real money lovers and shows that they are willing to pay to satisfy their tastes."

Mr. Bell says the French army band, which will be heard here next Saturday, is bringing a pair of very fine soloists with it. He says he will be in the city to see them.

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solists—a pianist and a violinist. He heard the pianist, Georges Truc, make his first American appearance in Carnegie hall in New York recently and declares he is the equal of Cortis. The pianist and the violinist will be heard in solo numbers during intermissions when the band comes to Liberty hall next Saturday.

OUR IDEA OF A SNAP: THE PERMANENT HAD THE COURAGE TO GET DOWN ALL HE WANTS TO DO IN A DAY.

"Talk about pretty women," said W. B. Ware. "You will see them in Paris. Many of them are looking good, but not all do, and all the young ones are pretty. I was out one night with some Y. M. C. A. fellows over there and after we had walked up and down some of the boulevards and strained our necks almost out of joint, I said to my companions, 'Say, fellows, I've just got to go around to Y. M. C. A. headquarters and get some book sniffs put in my boots. I feel myself slipping right now.'"

Fred C. Knollberg sent a telegram to a firm that had been getting up abstracts for him and had been about two weeks longer about it than he thought necessary.

"In an hour he got his message back from the telegraph office accompanied by a note in a feminine hand reading: 'We can't send bill by telegraph.' Fred is wondering if they will express it."

"Chris," said daddy to Little Chris, "Somebody sent me something today and suggested that I be printed as something you said."

"What was it?" asked Chris.

"The reader who sent it suggested that you were being given a bath and that after asking mother if God made daddy and her, you then asked if God made you."

He said he did and you said, as you looked down at yourself: 'He did a good job, mother, for he didn't leave any seams on me.'"

"Oh, my print! That's not funny," said Little Chris.

The gallery box says if everybody who talked said something, we'd soon have a literature surpassing that of any age in history.

Some people are ruined with optimism and some for the lack of enough to really develop their own talents. What's a poor world going to do anyhow?

Col. Cecil Williams, Canadian army, who is in El Paso on a visit to his brother, R. M. G. Williams, says the Americans have a reputation everywhere for their marksmanship and that they are not at all backward about admitting their prowess on land and sea, with big gun or little gun.

To illustrate, he tells a story. An enemy field was seen approaching by the lookout of the United States fleet. The commander of the American flagship said to the captain of the forward gun crew: "Captain, can you see that ship?"

On the strength of the evidence presented against him Ed Edwards, who was tried today on the alleged charge of running an opium joint, was acquitted by a jury of six men. The only grounds for conviction would have been that of smoking the drug in disorderly house and the house could not be proved disorderly.

W. E. Sparks, 804 Macguffin avenue, has composed a clever song entitled "Dear Heart." Mr. Sparks is also the author of one or more volumes of fiction.

Maes will not come to El Paso. She asked as her share of the box of receipts, a guarantee of \$2000, which is more than the city and lovers of the city can come up to.

Hobbes in large numbers make an attempt to go to the O. H. shops every night for permission to go inside and sleep, but the doors are always locked at night and night watchman J. E. Simpson, close the box car got a chilly reception.

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When You Run Story of One Press Agent, You Have Others After You

DEAR K. C. B.—I don't know whether the general was hungry or not when he took a bite of the "buck" private's apple, but I do wish you would settle this question:

Billy, the goat mascot of some soldiers at Fort Bliss, got in on the Crawford stage the other night and ate three silk stockings, a great many ruffles and the feathers off two hats before he was discovered behind the scenes. Do you suppose the goat was hungry, or do you suppose he was just because our curtain rises at 8:15 and we have matinees Saturdays and Sundays?

DOLLIE TREMPER.

MY DEAR Dollie.

AS TO whether or not.

YOUR FRIENDS really have a great AND IF you have one.

I REFUSE to believe.

THAT HE ever ate the things.

YOU SAY he ate.

HE MIGHT have eaten the stockings.

BUT THE ruffles and feathers.

HE COULDN'T eat them.

AND ANYWAY.

ITS QUITE clear to me.

THAT THE reason for your letter

IS TO let people know.

WHEN YOUR show begins.

AND I'M very much surprised.

YOU DIDN'T mention Joe Kemper.

AS THE star of the play.

IT MUST have been.

THAT YOUR nerve ran out.

IN ANSWER to your letter.

I WANT to tell you.

THAT WE have regular columns

FOR ADVERTISING shows.

AND IT won't do you any good

TO KEEP writing to me.

BECAUSE MY column.

ISN'T AN advertising column.

I THANK you.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

DO YOU REMEMBER?—Yes, I am sure you do. It was during your period of "reconstruction"—in other words, it was just after you left college, and were hunting for your first "position." However, you finally decided that you had best take the first "job" that presented itself. At any rate, you finally "landed" and found yourself working about 11 hours per day for the very remunerative sum of \$5 per week. Not bad, you thought. It certainly seemed a long time, this waiting for an entire month for that \$5. So you finally arranged with the kindly old bookkeeper, to pay you weekly. Let me see—You multiplied 5 by 12 and divided the result by 52 and it came to something like \$11.52, so you were to get \$11.52 one week and 12 cents the next and you never forgot which week it was either.

And me too, when the kindly old bookkeeper turned over to you that \$11.52 or \$11.55 respectively, on Saturday night, do you remember what you did with it? You didn't right, just in the clear, that's all. Suppose—fah, bam! the thought—what the fare had been increased or something like that. You didn't know, but you had a margin of five cents for emergencies. You paid but little attention to the conductor the first time he came around, but you paid him a margin of five cents for emergencies. You paid but little attention to the conductor the first time he came around, but you paid him a margin of five cents for emergencies. You paid but little attention to the conductor the first time he came around, but you paid him a margin of five cents for emergencies.

Of course, you met Isabelle in time, but if she wanted to marry you, she would have to be content with an occasional ice cream soda and street car rides in one of the parks and a little "fah, bam!" that's all. You thought it was a great thing in those days that the generous municipal (furnished free music in the parks on certain evenings). And you could really have a candy stand on the number of ice cream sodas you would buy, etc.

At any rate, one evening you thought you would vary the monotony—do you and Isabelle took the trolley and rode to the clear air ride. You had heard that the fare to the end of the line was 10 cents—let me see, you had 45 cents in your pocket when you started out—The two ice creams that you bought before you got on the car cost you 20 cents, leaving you a margin of 25 cents. You paid but little attention to the conductor the first time he came around, but you paid him a margin of five cents for emergencies. You paid but little attention to the conductor the first time he came around, but you paid him a margin of five cents for emergencies.

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